

The romanesque Church of St. James in village Jakub

The Church of St. James is situated in a small village Jakub (formerly Svatý Jakub) seven kilometres east of Kutná Hora. The Church has a single-aisle longitudinal construction with the apsis on the east and with the tower including the rostrum on the west.

In the elevated part of the St. James Church was to be found a rather small liturgical space where was in 1845 during a major restoration discovered an „altar-autentika“, document written by Prague Bishop Daniel (1148-1167) and describing the course of ceremony in 16. listopadu 1165. Nowadays this paper is an important contribution to the dating of the church building whose builder was a noblewoman Marie together with her sons Slavibor and Pavel.

For its architectonical and artistic qualities the church of St. James ranks among most outstanding Romanesque construction monuments whose uniqueness lies especially in the sculptural decoration of the southern facade. It concerns eight relief figures enclosed by plain arcades on semi columns and the portal with tympanum. Periodic-style relationship of the architectonical articulation in connection with the sculptural decoration is searched in France (Poitou and Saintonge) whereas relief figures are linking together with northern Italy (mainly Emilia, Cremona, Modena, Piacenza).

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12th century

Romanesque styl

Architecture

Sculptur